

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 621

Short Title: Increase Dropout Age/Completion Indicator. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Elmore, Graham, and Setzer (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 21, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO RAISE THE COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AGE TO EIGHTEEN  
3 YEARS OLD OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD AND TO ESTABLISH A COMPLETION  
4 RATE INDICATOR FOR SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6  
7 **PART I. RAISE DROPOUT AGE TO 16 YEARS AND SIX MONTHS FOR THE**  
8 **2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

9 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-378(a) reads as rewritten:

10 "(a) Every parent, ~~guardian-guardian~~, or custodian in this State having charge or control  
11 of a child between the ages of (i) seven years and (ii) 16 years and six months shall cause the  
12 child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to  
13 which the child is assigned shall be in ~~session-session~~, unless the child graduates from high  
14 school. Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child under  
15 age seven who is enrolled in a public school in grades kindergarten through two shall also cause  
16 the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to  
17 which the child is assigned shall be in session unless the child has withdrawn from school."

18 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 115C-238.66(3) reads as rewritten:

19 "(3) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
20 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the regional school and  
21 who is less than 16 years and six months of age shall cause such child to attend  
22 school continuously for a period equal to the time that the regional school shall  
23 be in ~~session-session~~, unless the child graduates from high school. No person  
24 shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the  
25 regional school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence  
26 from the regional school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1  
27 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
28 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
29 the board of directors, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
30 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
31 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

32 **SECTION 1.(c)** G.S. 116-235(b)(2) reads as rewritten:

33 "(2) School Attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
34 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the School and who is  
35 less than 16 years and six months of age shall cause such child to attend school



1 continuously for a period equal to the time which the School shall be in  
2 ~~session-session, unless the child graduates from high school.~~ No person shall  
3 encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the  
4 School. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the  
5 School shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The  
6 Chancellor of the School shall be responsible for implementing such  
7 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
8 the Board of Trustees, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
9 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
10 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

11 **SECTION 1.(d)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(5) reads as rewritten:

12 "(5) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
13 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the laboratory school  
14 and who is less than 16 years and six months of age shall cause such child to  
15 attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the laboratory  
16 school shall be in ~~session-session, unless the child graduates from high school.~~  
17 No person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully  
18 absent from the laboratory school. Any person who aids or abets a student's  
19 unlawful absence from the laboratory school shall, upon conviction, be guilty  
20 of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing  
21 such additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted  
22 by the chancellor, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
23 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
24 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

25 **SECTION 1.(e)** G.S. 7B-1501(27) reads as rewritten:

26 "(27) Undisciplined juvenile. –  
27 a. A juvenile who, while less than 16 years and six months of age but at  
28 least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
29 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
30 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
31 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
32 of more than 24 hours; or  
33 b. A juvenile who is between (i) 16 or 17 years and six months of age  
34 and (ii) 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond  
35 the disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian;  
36 or is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be;  
37 or has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."

38 **SECTION 1.(f)** G.S. 143B-805(20) reads as rewritten:

39 "(20) Undisciplined juvenile. –  
40 a. A juvenile who, while less than 16 years and six months of age but at  
41 least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
42 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
43 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
44 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
45 of more than 24 hours; or  
46 b. A juvenile who is between (i) 16 or 17 years and six months of age  
47 and (ii) 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond  
48 the disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian;  
49 or is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be;  
50 or has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."  
51

**PART II. RAISE DROPOUT AGE TO 17 YEARS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**

**SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-378(a), as amended by Section 1(a) of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(a) Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child between the ages of (i) seven years and (ii) ~~16-17 years and six months~~ shall cause the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child under age seven who is enrolled in a public school in grades kindergarten through two shall also cause the child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned shall be in session unless the child has withdrawn from school."

**SECTION 2.(b)** G.S. 115C-238.66(3), as amended by Section 1(b) of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(3) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the regional school and who is less than ~~16-17 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the regional school shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the regional school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the regional school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by the board of directors, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of attendance records, and attendance counseling."

**SECTION 2.(c)** G.S. 116-235(b)(2), as amended by Section 1(c) of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(2) School Attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the School and who is less than ~~16-17 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the School shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the School. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the School shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The Chancellor of the School shall be responsible for implementing such additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by the Board of Trustees, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of attendance records, and attendance counseling."

**SECTION 2.(d)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(5), as amended by Section 1(d) of this act, reads as rewritten:

"(5) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the laboratory school and who is less than ~~16-17 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the laboratory school shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the laboratory school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the laboratory school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class

1 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
2 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
3 the chancellor, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
4 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
5 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

6 **SECTION 2.(e)** G.S. 7B-1501(27), as amended by Section 1(e) of this act, reads as  
7 rewritten:

8 "(27) Undisciplined juvenile. –

- 9 a. A juvenile who, while less than ~~16-17~~ years ~~and six months~~ of age but  
10 at least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
11 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
12 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
13 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
14 of more than 24 hours; or  
15 b. A juvenile who is between (i) ~~16-17~~ years ~~and six months~~ of age and  
16 (ii) 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the  
17 disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or  
18 is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or  
19 has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."

20 **SECTION 2.(f)** G.S. 143B-805(20), as amended by Section 1(f) of this act, reads as  
21 rewritten:

22 "(20) Undisciplined juvenile. –

- 23 a. A juvenile who, while less than ~~16-17~~ years ~~and six months~~ of age but  
24 at least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
25 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
26 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
27 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
28 of more than 24 hours; or  
29 b. A juvenile who is between (i) ~~16-17~~ years ~~and six months~~ of age and  
30 (ii) 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the  
31 disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or  
32 is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or  
33 has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."

34  
35 **PART III. RAISE DROPOUT AGE TO 17 YEARS AND SIX MONTHS FOR THE**  
36 **2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

37 **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-378(a), as amended by Section 2(a) of this act, reads as  
38 rewritten:

39 "(a) Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child  
40 between the ages of (i) seven years and (ii) 17 years and six months shall cause the child to attend  
41 school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is  
42 assigned shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. Every parent, guardian,  
43 or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child under age seven who is enrolled in  
44 a public school in grades kindergarten through two shall also cause the child to attend school  
45 continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is assigned  
46 shall be in session unless the child has withdrawn from school."

47 **SECTION 3.(b)** G.S. 115C-238.66(3), as amended by Section 2(b) of this act, reads  
48 as rewritten:

49 "(3) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
50 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the regional school and  
51 who is less than 17 years and six months of age shall cause such child to attend

1 school continuously for a period equal to the time that the regional school shall  
2 be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall  
3 encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the  
4 regional school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence  
5 from the regional school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1  
6 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
7 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
8 the board of directors, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
9 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
10 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

11 **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 116-235(b)(2), as amended by Section 2(c) of this act, reads as  
12 rewritten:

13 "(2) School Attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
14 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the School and who is  
15 less than 17 years and six months of age shall cause such child to attend school  
16 continuously for a period equal to the time which the School shall be in  
17 session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall  
18 encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the  
19 School. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the  
20 School shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The  
21 Chancellor of the School shall be responsible for implementing such  
22 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
23 the Board of Trustees, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
24 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
25 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

26 **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(5), as amended by Section 2(d) of this act, reads  
27 as rewritten:

28 "(5) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
29 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the laboratory school  
30 and who is less than 17 years and six months of age shall cause such child to  
31 attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the laboratory  
32 school shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No  
33 person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent  
34 from the laboratory school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful  
35 absence from the laboratory school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class  
36 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
37 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
38 the chancellor, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
39 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
40 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

41 **SECTION 3.(e)** G.S. 7B-1501(27), as amended by Section 2(e) of this act, reads as  
42 rewritten:

43 "(27) Undisciplined juvenile. –  
44 a. A juvenile who, while less than 17 years and six months of age but at  
45 least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
46 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
47 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
48 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
49 of more than 24 hours; or  
50 b. A juvenile who is between (i) 17 years and six months of age and (ii)  
51 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the

1 disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or  
2 is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or  
3 has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."

4 **SECTION 3.(f)** G.S. 143B-805(20), as amended by Section 2(f) of this act, reads as  
5 rewritten:

6 "(20) Undisciplined juvenile. –

7 a. A juvenile who, while less than 17 years and six months of age but at  
8 least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
9 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
10 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
11 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
12 of more than 24 hours; or

13 b. A juvenile who is between (i) 17 years and six months of age and (ii)  
14 18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the  
15 disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or  
16 is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or  
17 has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."

18  
19 **PART IV. RAISE DROPOUT AGE TO 18 YEARS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

20 **SECTION 4.(a)** G.S. 115C-378(a), as amended by Section 3(a) of this act, reads as  
21 rewritten:

22 "(a) Every parent, guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child  
23 between the ages of (i) seven years and (ii) ~~17-18 years and six months~~ shall cause the child to  
24 attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the  
25 child is assigned shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. Every parent,  
26 guardian, or custodian in this State having charge or control of a child under age seven who is  
27 enrolled in a public school in grades kindergarten through two shall also cause the child to attend  
28 school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school to which the child is  
29 assigned shall be in session unless the child has withdrawn from school."

30 **SECTION 4.(b)** G.S. 115C-238.66(3), as amended by Section 3(b) of this act, reads  
31 as rewritten:

32 "(3) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
33 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the regional school and  
34 who is less than ~~17-18 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child to  
35 attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the regional  
36 school shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No  
37 person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent  
38 from the regional school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful  
39 absence from the regional school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class  
40 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
41 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
42 the board of directors, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
43 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
44 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

45 **SECTION 4.(c)** G.S. 116-235(b)(2), as amended by Section 3(c) of this act, reads as  
46 rewritten:

47 "(2) School Attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
48 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the School and who is  
49 less than ~~17-18 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child to attend  
50 school continuously for a period equal to the time which the School shall be  
51 in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No person shall

1 encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent from the  
 2 School. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful absence from the  
 3 School shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The  
 4 Chancellor of the School shall be responsible for implementing such  
 5 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
 6 the Board of Trustees, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
 7 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
 8 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

9 **SECTION 4.(d)** G.S. 116-239.8(b)(5), as amended by Section 3(d) of this act, reads  
 10 as rewritten:

11 "(5) School attendance. – Every parent, guardian, or other person in this State  
 12 having charge or control of a child who is enrolled in the laboratory school  
 13 and who is less than ~~17-18 years and six months~~ of age shall cause such child  
 14 to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time that the laboratory  
 15 school shall be in session, unless the child graduates from high school. No  
 16 person shall encourage, entice, or counsel any child to be unlawfully absent  
 17 from the laboratory school. Any person who aids or abets a student's unlawful  
 18 absence from the laboratory school shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class  
 19 1 misdemeanor. The principal shall be responsible for implementing such  
 20 additional policies concerning compulsory attendance as shall be adopted by  
 21 the chancellor, including regulations concerning lawful and unlawful  
 22 absences, permissible excuses for temporary absences, maintenance of  
 23 attendance records, and attendance counseling."

24 **SECTION 4.(e)** G.S. 7B-1501(27), as amended by Section 3(e) of this act, reads as  
 25 rewritten:

26 "(27) Undisciplined juvenile. – A  
 27 a. ~~A~~ juvenile who, while less than ~~17-18 years and six months~~ of age but  
 28 at least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
 29 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
 30 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
 31 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
 32 of more than 24 ~~hours; or~~ hours.  
 33 b. ~~A juvenile who is between (i) 17 years and six months of age and (ii)~~  
 34 ~~18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the~~  
 35 ~~disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or~~  
 36 ~~is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or~~  
 37 ~~has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."~~

38 **SECTION 4.(f)** G.S. 143B-805(20), as amended by Section 3(f) of this act, reads as  
 39 rewritten:

40 "(20) Undisciplined juvenile. – A  
 41 a. ~~A~~ juvenile who, while less than ~~17-18 years and six months~~ of age but  
 42 at least 6 years of age, is unlawfully absent from school; or is regularly  
 43 disobedient to and beyond the disciplinary control of the juvenile's  
 44 parent, guardian, or custodian; or is regularly found in places where it  
 45 is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or has run away from home for a period  
 46 of more than 24 ~~hours; or~~ hours.  
 47 b. ~~A juvenile who is between (i) 17 years and six months of age and (ii)~~  
 48 ~~18 years of age and who is regularly disobedient to and beyond the~~  
 49 ~~disciplinary control of the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian; or~~  
 50 ~~is regularly found in places where it is unlawful for a juvenile to be; or~~  
 51 ~~has run away from home for a period of more than 24 hours."~~

1           **SECTION 4.(g)** Section 8.21 of S.L. 2016-94 is repealed.

2  
3 **PART V. COMPLETION RATE INDICATOR FOR SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**  
4 **GRADES**

5           **SECTION 5.(a)** G.S. 115C-83.15(b)(2) reads as rewritten:

- 6           "(2) For schools serving any students in ninth through twelfth grade, the State  
7           Board shall assign points on the following measures available for that school:
- 8           a. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient  
9           on either the Algebra I or Integrated Math I end-of-course test or, for  
10           students who completed Algebra I or Integrated Math I before ninth  
11           grade, another mathematics course with an end-of-course test.
  - 12           b. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient  
13           on the English II end-of-course test.
  - 14           c. One point for each percent of students who score at or above proficient  
15           on the Biology end-of-course test.
  - 16           d. One point for each percent of students who complete Algebra II or  
17           Integrated Math III with a passing grade.
  - 18           e. One point for each percent of students who either (i) achieve the  
19           minimum score required for admission into a constituent institution of  
20           The University of North Carolina on a nationally normed test of  
21           college readiness or (ii) are enrolled in Career and Technical  
22           Education courses and score at Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels on a  
23           nationally normed test of workplace readiness.
  - 24           f. Repealed by Session Laws 2019-142, s. 1, effective July 19, 2019, and  
25           applicable to measures based on data from the 2018-2019 school year  
26           and each school year thereafter.
  - 27           g. One point for each percent of students who graduate within four years  
28           of entering high school.
  - 29           h. One point for each percent of students who progress in achieving  
30           English language proficiency.
  - 31           i. One half of a point for each percent of students who meet one of the  
32           following criteria within five years of entering high school:
    - 33           1. Graduate from high school.
    - 34           2. Earn an adult high school diploma.
    - 35           3. Earn an adult high school equivalency diploma.

36           In calculating the overall school achievement score earned by schools, the State Board of  
37           Education shall (i) use a composite approach to weigh the achievement elements based on the  
38           number of students measured by any given achievement element and (ii) proportionally adjust  
39           the scale to account for the absence of a school achievement element for award of scores to a  
40           school that does not have a measure of one of the school achievement elements annually assessed  
41           for the grades taught at that school. The overall school achievement score shall be translated to a  
42           100-point scale and used for school reporting purposes as provided in G.S. 115C-12(9)c1.,  
43           115C-218.65, 115C-238.66, and 116-239.8."

44           **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 115C-83.16(a)(2) reads as rewritten:

- 45           "(2) For schools serving any students in ninth through twelfth grade, the State  
46           Board shall define the indicators as follows:
- 47           a. Academic indicators. –
    - 48           1. The academic achievement indicator shall include the  
49           following measures:
      - 50           I. Proficiency on either the Algebra I or Integrated Math  
51           I end-of-course test or, for students who completed

- 1 Algebra I or Integrated Math I before ninth grade,  
 2 another mathematics course with an end-of-course test.  
 3 II. Proficiency on the English II end-of-course test.  
 4 III. The growth score earned by schools.  
 5 2. Repealed by Session Laws 2017-206, s. 1(b), effective August  
 6 30, 2017, and applicable beginning with the 2017-2018 school  
 7 year.  
 8 3. The graduation rate indicator shall be the percentage of  
 9 students who graduate within four years of entering high  
 10 school.  
 11 4. The English language proficiency indicator shall be the  
 12 percentage of students who progress in achieving English  
 13 language proficiency.  
 14 b. School quality and student success indicator. – The school quality and  
 15 student success indicator shall be made up of the following measures:  
 16 1. Proficiency on the Biology end-of-course test.  
 17 2. The percentage of students who complete Algebra II or  
 18 Integrated Math III with a passing grade.  
 19 3. The percentage of students who either (i) achieve the minimum  
 20 score required for admission into a constituent institution of  
 21 The University of North Carolina on a nationally normed test  
 22 of college readiness or (ii) are enrolled in Career and Technical  
 23 Education courses and score at Silver, Gold, or Platinum levels  
 24 on a nationally normed test of workplace readiness.  
 25 4. Repealed by Session Laws 2019-142, s. 2, effective July 19,  
 26 2019, and applicable to measures based on data from the  
 27 2018-2019 school year and each school year thereafter.  
 28 5. The percentage of students who meet one of the following  
 29 criteria within five years of entering high school:  
 30 I. Graduate from high school.  
 31 II. Earn an adult high school diploma.  
 32 III. Earn an adult high school equivalency diploma."

33 **SECTION 5.(c)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

34 "(27b) Duty to Provide Dropout Data to the State Board of Community Colleges. –

35 For the purposes of calculating the high school completion rate required by  
 36 G.S. 115C-83.15(b)(2)i., by June 15 of each year, the State Board of  
 37 Education shall provide the State Board of Community Colleges with  
 38 identifying information for any students who meet the following criteria:

39 a. The student unenrolled from a public school unit before graduation or  
 40 completion of a program of study without transferring to another  
 41 secondary school.

42 b. The student entered high school no more than five years earlier."

43 **SECTION 5.(d)** G.S. 115D-5(a2) reads as rewritten:

44 "(a2) The State Board of Community Colleges shall comply with the following provisions  
 45 of to ensure an efficient exchange of information between education agencies in the State:

46 (1) The provisions of G.S. 116-11(10a) to plan and implement an exchange of  
 47 information between the public schools and the institutions of higher  
 48 education in the State.

49 (2) By July 15 of each year, for students included in the data provided pursuant  
 50 to G.S. 115C-12(27b), the State Board of Community Colleges shall provide

1                    the State Board of Education with the dates that students earned an adult high  
2                    school equivalency diploma."

3                    **SECTION 5.(e)** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to school  
4 performance scores and grades issued based on data from the 2021-2022 school year.  
5

6 **PART VI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

7                    **SECTION 6.** This act is effective as follows:

- 8                    (1) Section 1 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2022, and applies beginning  
9                    with the 2022-2023 school year.  
10                    (2) Section 2 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2023, and applies beginning  
11                    with the 2023-2024 school year.  
12                    (3) Section 3 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2024, and applies beginning  
13                    with the 2024-2025 school year.  
14                    (4) Section 4 of this act becomes effective July 1, 2025, and applies beginning  
15                    with the 2025-2026 school year.  
16                    (5) The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.